

# Austria

## I. A Land of Charm & Its Pleasant People

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**I**T seldom happens that charm of manner is united in individuals with exceptional business ability. The pleasantest companions, as a rule, are those who are not ambitious, whose thoughts do not run continually upon methods of adding to their riches or satisfying their desire for prominence.

Of nations this is as true as it is of individuals. The British, who have proved themselves the most capable colonising race since the Romans, have never been liked by other peoples. The Prussians, who by force of will and brain and industry imposed their ambition upon the greater part of the German race, and for a time kept in being a new and powerful state, were detested from one end of the world to the other.

On the other hand, the Austrians, the section of the German race which escaped the domination of Prussia, were liked by every one who went among them, although it was obvious to every one that they were slack in their methods, corrupt in their administration, incapable of steering the unwieldy ship of their Empire through the storms that grew more threatening every year.

### In the Land of Go-as-you-please

To go from Berlin to Vienna was to exchange the mechanical order of officialdom for a truly pleasant go-as-you-please system, mitigated by natural charm and by the joyousness of a city where the mass of people were mainly concerned about getting the most out of life in the way of agreeable recreation.

The hard-faced purposeful expression of Berlin was replaced by the smiling, slightly cynical, altogether attractive looks of the Viennese. The dress of the women was exquisite. From Vienna came the fashions which conquered the

world. Pretty faces, dainty complexions, trim figures, were to be seen among all classes—a delightful change from the heaviness of feature and bulk which are the distinguishing marks of most Prussian women. Nothing was taken seriously. Shrugs of the shoulder or some witty catchword were sufficient comment when things went wrong.

### Dancing Towards the Precipice

Out in his palace of Schönbrunn the old Emperor Francis Joseph sat with his few old friends, a survival from another age, the sole prop of the Empire he had inherited in the year of turmoil, 1848, and which had been steadily going to pieces ever since. "When he dies," it was generally agreed, "the whole thing will fall asunder." But the Austrians did not let this thought trouble them. They shrugged their shapely shoulders; they said, "What will be, will be." If there was going to be trouble in the days to come, all the more reason to laugh and be merry while they could. So they allowed incompetent Ministers to pursue insane policies; their Government fell more and more into the orbit of the Hohenzollern sun; the subject races—Bohemian, Southern Slav, Slovak—became more insistent in their demands for independence, and won the sympathy of the rest of Europe, as the Italians had done during their long struggle to free themselves from the Hapsburg yoke.

If the Austrians had given careful attention to the dangers which loomed ahead of them, they could have put statesmen in office whose task it would have been to create a federal system. But they declined to bother their heads about "stupid politics." It was too much trouble to think about matters which ought to be settled by the officials. So long as there were operettas of the



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"Merry Widow" type to amuse them and give them airs to hum, so long as they could sip their eis-kaffee out of doors in summer and find a warm corner in their favourite bier-keller, or café, when the cold weather came, so long as the fashionables could ride and drive in the Prater, and the masses amuse themselves in the Wurstelprater or the Volksgarten, the Viennese took up the attitude of Gallio and cared for "none of these things" which were discussed by diplomats and written about in newspaper articles. Political problems and probabilities seemed to them unreal. They did not dream what a terrible penalty they would have to pay for this unheeding frame of mind. What did anything matter? The important thing was to enjoy life.

To speak of the Viennese is to speak of the Austrian middle class in general. Not that the same standards of comfort or morality prevailed among the

inhabitants of the provinces. But the ideals were the same. The tone of Vienna penetrated everywhere. The aim of all officials, all professional men of ability, all painters, writers, musicians, was to live in Vienna. What was "correct" in the capital was correct all over the German part of the Austrian Empire. "Good style" in the Ringstrasse, the chief shopping centre of Vienna, was followed in Salzburg, in Innsbruck, in Linz, and Graz.

The mass, of course, of the population of Upper and Lower Austria, of Styria, Carinthia, Tirol, of the provinces which spoke German and which are all that Austria has left to-day, were farmers and peasants—good, easy-going folk, who knew nothing of what foreign policy meant or home policy, either. They were taught a good deal in the schools. There were very few who could not read and write. They farmed well for the most part. They talked intelligently



EXTRAORDINARY VARIETY OF OLD-FASHIONED TIROLESE COSTUMES

This is but a fragment of the pageantry of village dress in old Tirol. Probably the scattered and scanty valley communities have devised more distinctions of attire between themselves than did the Scottish clansmen. While the traffic of South and North Europe climbed their Brenner Pass, they took medieval fashions from both Italy and the old Teutonic Empire, and invented others





### AN AFTER-SUPPER SMOKE AND FLIRTATION AT A HIGHLAND FARM

A Tirolean couple and their daughter are sitting outside their timber-built farmstead, with two young men helping in the hay harvest. It is matchmaking time in early summer. The snow has melted from the Lower Alps, which are not mountains, but high slopes of fine grass, called "alms," and some of these men have been mowing for winter fodder

about the land and about their local affairs. But only here and there would a farmer or a peasant be found who considered that he had any responsibility for, or any concern with, the affairs of the Empire.

The determination of most Austrian statesmen to maintain the ascendancy of the German-speaking people over the Slav nations, which had been for centuries under Austrian rule, was based upon the conviction that the Slavs were an inferior race.

Therefore the conception of an Empire made up of German and Slav peoples, enjoying Home Rule and being on equal terms, was one which the great families could not admit into their minds. They could not see that there was any alternative to the policy of trying to force all the nationalities to speak German and to be governed by German-speaking officials.

The Austrians thus remained far behind their kinsmen in Germany in this and other respects. With the

Bavarians to the west of them, and with the Saxons on the north, they had a great deal in common. They were of the same stock.

They had the same light-hearted temperament, the same agreeable courtesy of manner as the Bavarians, and the same shallow attachment to the forms of their religion, which had not been changed to Protestantism by the Reformation. But all through the German Empire the Prussian influence had made itself felt in an increased respect for efficiency, in a desire that everything should be "done decently and in order."

No such desire, no such respect, were to be found in Austria. The cleaning of the Vienna streets was a joke even among the inhabitants. Foreigners, with the spick-and-span appearance of German cities fresh in mind, were amazed at the slackness of the sweepers and the antiquated methods they employed. The municipality was too busy squabbling, and sometimes actually





# CHARMING PEASANT GIRL OF CARINTHIAN BORDER IN GALA DRESS

Born in the eastern Alpine forests, where the women usually have a winter period of snowbound leisure, this beautiful maiden has probably fashioned her own dress and magnificent headdress, patiently working all the charming flower and foliage embroideries, linen pleats, and openwork kerchief. Hers is probably one of the finest mountain costumes to be found in all the Alpine regions





**FAMOUS MODERN BEAUTY OF VIENNA IN ANCIENT AUSTRIAN ATTIRE**  
She is Fraülein Kaiser, wearing an old-fashioned, picturesque costume of the city that ranked with Paris in the creation of new styles of feminine attire. The headdress is of Alpine origin, but the use of a shawl as a bodice, the silk-fringed fan, and the skirt, with a suggestion of the crinoline, belong to early waltzing days. Vienna was long famous for the charm of its women



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fighting, over political matters which brought the Christian Socialists and the Social Democrats into conflict, to pay attention to such dull considerations as the management of city affairs.

The name Christian Socialist illustrated the unreality of Austrian politics. The members of this party were certainly not Socialists; they upheld the interests of capitalism and favoured the farmers to such a length that the prices of bread, milk, meat, butter, and other farm

produce went up to levels hitherto unheard of. Nor did they justify the title "Christian" by their behaviour. They were violent in their attacks upon Jews, for instance, and would have liked to return to the old plan of treating members of this unfortunate race as outcasts. That plan was only abolished in Austria in the middle of the nineteenth century. Up to that time they were compelled to live in the special Jewish quarters of the cities,

called ghettos; they were not allowed to own land, they were forced to live by small trade and money-lending.

Even after these disabilities were legally swept away, the prejudice remained strong. It was hard for a Jew to make his way to the front in the service of the State or in the Army. The result was that very few entered these callings. Finance and commerce still occupied the more prominent, with a certain number to the fore in teaching, in music, in the legal profession, while among the poor Jews the parasitical mode of existence continued and made them objects of general suspicion.

Anti-Semitism being one of the chief planks in the Christian Socialist platform it was natural that the opposing party, the Social Democrats, should attract many Jews into its ranks. The man who brought it to its high state of discipline was a Jew—Victor Adler. Toleration was one of its watchwords. But although they held together more closely than the Christian Socialists, and did not cause such scenes of



### SWEET MUSIC FOR A MOUNTAIN DANCE

He is playing a 'cello melody, in a Tirol inn, for dancing village friends who have set the ornate pot of lager beer beside him, while he continues to smoke the long pipe beloved of Teuton peoples. This is the way the Tirolese trains himself to become the popular musician of Central Europe





#### MUSIC AND BANNERS AT A SHOOTING FESTIVAL IN TIROL

For many years the Tirolese peasants were the best shots in Europe. They trained themselves, less for war than for game shooting on their mountains, and rifle contests became their solace when chamois grew rare. Here are seen the musicians of one contending valley playing for their best men during a festive match with the picked riflemen of another valley

uproar and frenzied partisanship, the Social Democrats had no definite programme.

Their chief aim was to keep in check those who were trying to keep up class domination and the power of the clergy. In this they succeeded pretty well, so far as outward manifestations of these evils were concerned. They even secured the passing of manhood suffrage, which left things, however, very much as they were. But the inward and spiritual working of caste and clericalism was not to be got rid of by legislation or by any means except the slow process of time.

In many ways there was more genuine democratic feeling among the Austrians than among most of the other Western

nations. In this they were like the Russians. So long as a poor man's son was not a Jew he might count upon rising to whatever position his abilities could conquer. The Austrian nobility felt so secure in their superiority, conferred by long pedigrees, that they gave themselves no airs, took no pains to separate themselves from the rest of the population. They did not resent the appearance among Cabinet Ministers of men who had been born in humble homes. Caste did not exist in the Austrian Army. A large proportion of the officers came from the middle class. There was no prejudice against men who rose from the ranks. Unfortunately there was no prejudice either against



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men who were manifestly unfit to take command and who took no pains to master their profession. There were no soldiers in Europe with less of the military stamp on them, no more pleasant companions or more effective wearers of uniform. To see a group of cavalry subalterns on a railway platform, munching ham-rolls bought at the buffet, walking up and down while the train waited, arm-in-arm, with laughter and chaff, their spurs and long swords clanking behind them, was to be struck at the same time by the picturesqueness of Austrian uniforms and by the entire absence of anything like military "side."

### Drawing-Room Soldiers

But along with this unassuming character went a lack of interest in the serious part of an officer's career. They could all dance and make love, and ride well, if they were in that branch of the service; ornamentally, they left nothing to desire. It was when they were put to the test in war that their deficiencies came to light. As staff officers they showed little imagination, and far too little attention to detail. As regimental officers they left a great deal to chance, were not conspicuously courageous, and were seldom followed with any enthusiasm by their men. The Austrian Army inspired no fear. It had been so often defeated and had for so long been "a stranger to victory, that it had little confidence in itself. Neither Russians, Italians, nor Rumanians, against whom it fought in the Great War, felt any alarm so long as they had only Austrians to contend with; their state of mind was very different when they knew they were faced by German troops.

### How Good Material Was Wasted

The material in the Austrian ranks for making good soldiers was in no way inferior to that of other armies; it was the ability to turn the material to account which was lacking. A weakness of fibre in the whole nation was revealed, but the blame lay chiefly upon those who called themselves the national leaders, and who failed disastrously to lead. No reproach can

fairly be made against the peasants who work moderately hard and enjoy their Sundays and holidays so wholeheartedly, wearing their gay local costumes and dancing to the music of a zither, played with plenty of spirit.

The men usually wear short, loose knickerbockers with green or white stockings, embroidered shirt, short jacket, and felt hat with a feather or a "shaving-brush" ornament at the back. The women's dress varies in different parts. Everywhere it is dainty, and in some valleys most elaborate, especially the hats or bonnets. These are handed down sometimes from generation to generation, but already they are beginning to be laughed at as antiquated.

If the Austrian peasants had been taken in hand by officers and sergeants inspired with the passion for discipline, they would have made soldiers just as good as the Bavarians or Saxons or Württembergers. Probably they would have lost something of their pleasant, easy-going character in the process, and in the end they might have suffered not less severe a defeat than was inflicted upon them.

### Loss of Lands and Livelihood

But it is hard to think that if any effort had been made by the ruling classes in Austria to strengthen the moral of the people, to stiffen their wills and to give them self-reliance, they would have been so utterly crushed by the blows that fell upon them.

Certainly their position was more difficult than that of any other nation which was weakened by the war. Their country had been self-supporting. Now they found themselves deprived of coal and iron, cut off from the sea, with a big and famous city for a capital and a country only big enough to support a very small one, with next to no resource but agriculture, unless they chose to develop other means of wealth which exist in their still fairly large and fairly rich territory.

The best mine-fields were in Bohemia and Moravia, which have become Czechoslovakia. The oil-fields in Galicia have passed to Poland. Austria was rich





**THE OLD SHOULDER STYLE OF TRANSPORT IN ALPINE BYWAYS**  
 Packmen like these are still needed to carry provisions in secluded nooks in the Eastern Alps, though the main valleys are opened up to rapid traffic by railways, roads, and bridle paths. From Vorarlberg to Styria pedlars may often be met carrying a folded miniature shop, and climbing over mountain saddles from hamlet to hamlet, with small wares of many kinds



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### EUROPE'S BIGGEST BRAIN CAPACITY

This well-to-do farmer of Northern Tirol represents the fine highlander stock, which has been found to possess the largest average brain capacity of all races yet closely studied by men of science. He wears the Tirolean hat

in forests, but the Carpathians have been taken from her and this source of prosperity has gone. Austrian horses were famous the world over, but the best of these were bred in Galicia. The Austrian cure-places with Karlsbad at their head, were recommended by doctors to thousands of patients in all European countries and America. Now they are Austrian no longer.

The unhappy Austrians were therefore deprived by the Peace Treaty, not merely of territories, but of their livelihood. The purely German part of the country had really lived upon the rest of it. With "the rest of it" taken away, Vienna ceased to have any reason for continuing to exist. It had not been sufficiently understood by those

who were determined upon the dismemberment of the Austrian Empire that it had come together largely for economic reasons. The various parts of it each contributed something to enable the whole to live.

When it was knocked to pieces the district around Vienna was seen to have lost its means of existence. This had been occupied with manufactures and with distribution. Now it had neither coal nor raw material for its factories, nor was there any bulk of trade for it to distribute.

For the population which had grown up dependent on the system which had provided it with work and wages, the situation was pitiable in its hopelessness. There had been no more delightful capital in the world. It was filled with light and colour. Its streets and buildings were spacious and effective. It was a city of flowers. It possesses more public

parks and gardens than any other. It is surrounded by country so fine and so unspoiled that it is possible to enjoy a day's winter sport—tobogganing or ski-ing—in the mountains, and to get back in time for dinner.

There were drawbacks to living in Vienna. A tiresome feature of residence there was the "hausmeister," the counterpart of the Paris "concierge," who made himself even more of a tyrant and was grumbled about even more loudly. Employed often by the police to give information about those who inhabit the houses in which they act as doorkeepers and porters, they make it their business to know all that they can discover. The main door is closed at ten o'clock, so that anyone going out or



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coming in after that hour is obliged to ring and ask the "hausmeister" or his wife to open. Thus he is aware of the habits of all who occupy flats in his block.

The police who, under the Emperor—as in Russia under the Tsars—were regarded as watchdogs of the existing system, would often call upon a "hausmeister" for a secret report upon the character and movements of anyone who was known to be, or even suspected of being, opposed to the Government. It would be reported that this person gave so many dinner-parties a month, that on so many occasions he went off in a taxicab, that he was visited by suspicious-looking people (which generally meant people who did not tip the "hausmeister"), that he seemed to amuse himself expensively. Sometimes the collectors of income-tax would pay a "hausmeister" to supply such information, if they suspected that somebody was getting off too lightly.

The whole system of the Empire was based on methods which even Austrian writers called "Asiatic." "Austria must be comprehended as a kind of Asia," wrote Kurnberger. He meant that its mode of government was Eastern rather than Western, despotic in character—however mild the despotism might be—instead of democratic. It aimed, that is to say, chiefly and first of all, at keeping up the power of the monarch and the bureaucracy by which he was supported. Officials did not consider themselves to be servants of the nation. The nation, on the contrary, they looked upon as subject to them. They were the government, they believed. This was what gave the Austrian system



AN AUSTRIAN HIGHLANDER AT HIS EASE

Here is another hardy, keen-minded Tirolean of the working-class, resting in an inn. Men of this sort used to travel as far as France for work, and return with their savings to their valley village

its Asiatic character. It was the ambition of most middle-class parents to get their sons into the service of the State. The aristocracy regarded it as a right attached to their order.

All the Government offices were over-staffed. Every year the universities turned out numbers of young men trained as "jurists" who looked for the employment of their legal minds in the public service. Most of them had some "protector" who could speak for them and secure them entrance. As in Russia "protection" was a prominent feature of social and official life. Only the very able could rise without it. Thus the Government offices had to support more public servants than they could profitably find work for. "Jurists" would be found copying or typewriting,



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doing sometimes the jobs which ought to have fallen to office-boys. There were also too many "engineers" who expected the State to keep them; they were far more in number than the technical posts which they could fill.

By Austrian law the Press was free; that was laid down in the Constitution

from which such great results were hoped. But in practice the Government could kill the sale of any newspaper which became embarrassing to it. For the newspapers were sold only in the tobacco-shops, which, as in France, were licensed to their holders by the State. The sale of newspapers in the streets by newsboys, the display of them on kiosks, were forbidden. Therefore by giving orders that the tobacco-shops should not sell a paper the officials responsible for suppressing unfavourable comment on the acts of Ministers or heads of departments could prevent it from getting into the hands of the public.

Some excuse must be made for a nation which was so little able to follow and to make up its mind about the deeds which were being done in its name. It has suffered terribly for its neglect of the duty of citizenship.

For a time it appeared that they might not be in a position to continue to govern themselves. It was very difficult to raise money for the carrying-on even of the simplest forms of rule. The Austrians seemed to be in a stupor of despair. At first the Social Democrats had taken office; they had to give way to the Christian Socialists, who were Socialists only in name, but who managed to overcome the difficulties of the position a little better than their opponents had done. But no skill in management could set the two and a half million population of Vienna to work again as busily as they had worked before, no political sagacity could provide the supplies of coal and raw material which had been cut off so abruptly.

The sufferings of the townspeople were pitiful. How they



BOHEMIAN APPLE WOMAN OF VIENNA

She is now an alien in the Austrian capital, but her homely kerchiefed face is well known, and her fruit good and cheaper than that found in the shops

*Photo Donald McLeish*





**WOMAN PEDLAR OF VIENNA AND HER UMBRELLA OF DANCING TOYS**  
The toys are set in motion by the swinging of the wooden pendulums dangling beneath the umbrella. In the forested Alps of Austria the making of simple toys by the peasantry in winter is a home industry, as in Germany, but there was little money to spare for buying toys in Vienna in the famine days, when this photograph was taken.

*Photo Donald McLeish*



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managed to exist not even those who were living among them could discover. University teachers received annual salaries which just covered the cost of a suit of clothes. Elderly women trying to exist in what had been comfortable middle-class homes, or, maybe, aristocratic homes, on six shillings a week, sat all day in rooms unheated, not daring to open a window, sewing or doing embroidery, ruining their eyesight unused to such work, feeling in their limbs the pain which meant that the bones were softening from lack of nourishment, knowing that slow starvation was afflicting them with paralysis, daily bringing them nearer to helplessness and death.

### The Tragedy of the Children

Some attempt was made by the different agencies at work, British and American, to lighten the lot of all sufferers, but the children rightly had the greatest effort concentrated upon them. Seventy thousand were sent to kindly folk abroad, chiefly in Holland, Sweden, Denmark, England, Switzerland. In Vienna itself the Society of Friends took charge of numberless babies, saving them from the disaster of growing up rickety, never to know what health and strength meant. The gratitude of the Austrians was expressed with their habitual charm and with a deeper feeling which brought tears into their eyes as they spoke of what was being done for them.

### The Café Life of Pre-War Days

They did little enough for themselves; there was little they could do, perhaps. Some of those who went to carry help to them were irritated at times by their lightness of heart even under such depressing conditions. Those who had money spent it. Those who had none shrugged their shoulders. There was the same singing gaiety among them, not quite so pervasive as before, but still enough to strike the visitor.

Café life is even more to the taste of the Viennese than of the Parisian. There used in the days of peace to be as many as seven hundred cafés in the capital, and that total did not include numbers of small places frequented by

the poorer classes. Women used them as well as men, especially in the afternoons, but also in the evenings. Every one had a favourite café where the waiter ran to serve the regular customer and to bring the newspaper which would be wanted, perhaps the dominoes or cards. No more delicious coffee was made anywhere, no such crisp and succulent rolls. A café full of graceful and elegant people (for the men deserved these epithets as a rule not less than the women), with a Tzigane orchestra playing wild, compelling gipsy airs, with a pleasant chatter in the soft Viennese speech (soft, at any rate, after the harsh utterance of the Berlin population), with an atmosphere of smiling ease and good-humoured enjoyment of life—that is the picture that comes into the mind of those who knew Austria before the war when they hear the name of Vienna.

### A Home of Art and Craftsmanship

The favourite form of amusement for the Viennese is light opera. Among them was born and nourished the type of entertainment which carried all before it in Britain and America. The "Merry Widow" went round the world, and it was followed by many other pieces of the same type.

It must not be supposed that they were in all directions of national effort slack or inefficient. In some ways they did set an example, and will do so again when their troubles of the moment have passed over.

In what we call by the ill-sounding name of technical education—a term which might have been invented for the express purpose of checking interest in the teaching of trades and crafts—Austria was ahead of all other states. Wherever there were local industries, schools were set up to train children not merely to earn their living, but to take an interest in those industries. Thus in one district you would come across a school of olive culture, in another a forestry school; here you would see boys doing woodwork of all descriptions—carving, mosaic, cabinet-making; there girls would be learning to make lace both of the useful and the





#### HOW THE WOMEN OF VIENNA WORKED AFTER THE WAR

For some time men in the building trades were more inclined to strike than to work, but the sturdy town girls, who had been doing men's work in the war, fought against the poverty that had fallen upon the fine old capital of Austria. Here are two of them engaged in mixing cement for building operations in one of the suburbs of Vienna. Others are occupied as bricklayers and painters.

*Photo, Donald McLeish*



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most exquisite kinds. There were schools of housewifery, where girls of all classes met and studied both the art and the science of house-management, the care of children, the knack of making homes pleasant as well as comfortable.

In this the Austrians of all ranks pointed the way even to a people so proud of its homes as the English are. They showed taste and skill in decoration, they appreciated the value of simplicity, and banished that stuffiness which is so often generated in English homes by over-abundance of upholstery.

### Sunlight and Simplicity

There were no slums in Vienna like those of London; the poorest quarters left the impression that life could be pleasantly lived by their inhabitants; they were much cleaner than the dwellings of the English poor. In the country the peasants' cottages were usually kept delightfully trim and fresh. Often it was necessary to put beds into the family sitting-room, but they would be neatly covered; all would be airy and tidy and tempting in its order and cleanliness. There was no superfluity of cheap ornaments, no unnecessary display of books never opened, no deadness of atmosphere caused by exclusion of air and betraying the fact that the "parlour" is scarcely ever used. In the kitchen the pots and pans would be hung up well polished, the window would be open, there would be flowers most likely; all suggested that the cottagers lead a healthy and agreeable existence.

### Rich Harvest of the Tourist Industry

The same spotless cleanliness of floor, the same airiness and freshness, the same absence of needless nicknacks, are characteristic of the smaller Austrian hotels. The big hotels are very much like those of other countries, a trifle less oppressive in their luxury, perhaps, rather more cheaply managed. In Innsbruck, and maybe elsewhere, there is a school of hotel-keeping. This was one of the chief industries of the Empire, and it will remain a valuable source of income to the Republic.

The greater part of Tirol has been ceded to Italy, but there remains the

northern part in which are Innsbruck and the Brenner Pass and the charming hill country which runs along the Bavarian frontier; there remain Bad Gastein and Ischl; there is the Salzburg district with the world's gem of lake and mountain scenery in it; Zell-am-See, not to mention the town of Salzburg and the salt mines. There are, too, numbers of delightful little holiday places within easy reach of Vienna. So the tourist industry will still yield to the Austrians a rich harvest in summer and autumn, possibly in winter, too, for winter sports.

The local costumes are disappearing in the larger places and those which are in fairly close touch with the world, but they are still to be seen, on Sundays and holidays especially, in many of the remoter valleys. In Carinthia the dress of the girls and women is a short skirt, thick white stockings, gay garters, high-laced boots, with a short sleeveless jacket over a white blouse or shirt, a belt of richly-coloured needlework, and a pretty white cap with streamers of embroidery.

### Tirolese Both Tidy and Picturesque

In Tirol the men wear short loose knickerbockers leaving bare knees above the stocking, short coats, embroidered shirts, green felt hats with feathers, and huge nailed boots. All the peasant costumes are picturesque, and they all look exceedingly clean.

In their habits the Austrian farmers and cultivators—the great majority of the people—are very particular about cleanliness, both in their dress and their surroundings. Some of the inns which cater specially for country-folk are as dainty and well-managed as any in the land. The rooms are light and airy, the tables are covered with tempting cloths, and have flowers on them, the food is excellent, and the beer beyond praise. To an English visitor who showed his surprise at finding an hotel of this character run for peasants, the manager replied: "The peasants would not come here if it were not perfectly clean and well arranged."

In the Danube steamers there is the same good arrangement and cleanliness. The restaurants on board are good, and





**ADAM AND DEATH: SCENE IN AN ALPINE PEASANTS' PLAY**

In the villages round Innsbruck, as far as Oberammergau over the modern border of Bavaria, the Tirol mountaineers maintained the old custom of composing and performing religious plays. Girls often took both male and female parts, but men are dominant now. Here is stricken Adam wearily going through life, followed by a quaint kind of Death, with some remarkable onlookers

used to be cheap; a bed in the saloon cost less than two shillings. This service on the chief river of Austria is a capital illustration of Austrian efficiency. It was set going nearly a hundred years ago by two Britons, but the management has long been purely Austrian.

The Danube is not "blue," as the title of one of Johann Strauss' waltzes proclaims it: its colour varies with the season. Sometimes it is grey, sometimes green, sometimes yellow, most often a light coffee colour. But it is a more interesting river than the Rhine. Its castles and monasteries are more impressive, the scenery is far more varied. Now it flows swiftly through narrow gorges, now it opens out into a smiling plain with mountains on the horizon, in another reach it washes the feet of mountains which rise steeply out of it. There are plenty of towns, big and little, on the banks of the Danube, filled with beauty and interest.

Almost every town has its museum, whether on the river or elsewhere, and these museums are by no means the dull and dusty abodes of futilities in glass cases which the average Englishman is

accustomed to associate with the word. Here is another example of Austrian wisdom and enterprise. Most of these museums are State-aided; they are looked upon as valuable aids to education. Their aim is to show what was the life of each locality in the past, and to show also what are its industries and amusements to-day. Thus history can be learnt in the museums, the development of local resources, the changes of costume which time has brought with it, the altered habits of the people, the art of the present and the past.

Like the South of Germany, and unlike Prussia, Austria is a Roman Catholic country. No other religion, except that of the Jews, has any following worth consideration. The priests are of a far higher type than those of Italy, and the people are, as a rule, attached to them, and inclined to respect their opinions on other matters than those pertaining to their faith. In the country there is a general observance of Sunday morning Mass, usually at ten or even earlier; after they have heard it, the faithful can enjoy themselves as they please. In Tirol,



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Sunday afternoons are often devoted to rifle matches. The Tirolese are famous for their skill as shots, and whole countrysides turn out to attend the competitions. The churches are often filled to overflowing. Groups will be seen standing outside the open west doors, seeing and hearing what they can of the celebration. When they make excursions from home the peasants very often decide to visit some famous church or shrine.

### Devotion to Church and Empire

In the great church of the capital, the Stefanskirche, parties of country people in their gay local costumes can generally be seen going round with reverent gaze under the guidance of a priest and kneeling all together without a trace of self-consciousness or false shame to pray before the image of some noted saint.

The Tirolese are the most devotedly Catholic of all the Austrian populations. They were enthusiastically loyal also to the Hapsburg Emperors as long as they lasted. They were, as a consequence, and still are, obstinately German in their feelings and habits. They are even more German than the Austrians in general, of whom in their brusque, vigorous speech they often speak with some contempt. After the war, when they found that Austria was to be broken up, they tried to join themselves with Bavaria and become a province of the German Republic. Salzburg would have liked to do that as well, but the Peace Conference would not allow any additions to German territory.

### Musical Wood-Carvers of Tirol

There was bitter lamentation over the cession of South Tirol, with the magnificent Dolomites region of Italy. Meran and Botzen, which became Italian and were renamed Merano and Botzano, have nevertheless remained German in language, in appearance, in thought. A fine sturdy race are the Tirolese, with a keen sense of their history and an energy which has been turned from fighting to commercial and hotel-keeping activities. Like all the Austrians, the Tirolese are a

musical folk. The zither is their favourite instrument and they handle it most effectively. In other parts one often hears still the xylophone; everywhere good voices abound, and chorus singing is a common accomplishment among the village people as well as in the musical societies of the towns. The Tirolese go in more for cattle than for cultivation. On the "alms," or Lower Alps, there is rich grassland; the hay can be cut two or three times a year. In summer the schools are shut and the children go up to the "alm" to help with the haymaking or to look after the cows turned out to pasture on the heights.

Wood-carving is a home industry during the winter in peasant homes; visitors to Innsbruck find shops full of it. This capital of Tirol is a fine old town, overhung almost by mountains and with the swift River Inn foaming through it, green from the glaciers whence it flows. Graz (pronounced Grates), the chief town of Styria, ninety miles from Vienna, has an abiding charm also, both of situation and of antiquity.

### Carinthia's Homely Charm

Styria is predominantly German, so are Carinthia and the Salzburg province.

Carinthia is a land of warm, wooded valleys, broad enough to enclose lakes, with the fir forests of the lower slopes of mountain ranges framing them and with the summits far away cutting the distant horizon. Klagenfurt is the capital of the province, a quiet old place looking across the Karawanken mountains. Larger and busier is Villach, through which runs the railway from Central Europe to the Adriatic. This line, called the Tauern, after the range which it pierces near the Bavarian frontier, opened up a delightful district for tourists and one of which advantage was at once taken. The obstacles to be overcome were many and severe; it was to the credit of Austrian railway engineers that they were successfully overcome. Carinthia profited notably by its construction; this very pretty and interesting part of Austria, with its companies of peasant singers and





### HOMING LUMBERJACKS OF THE EASTERN ALPS IN AUSTRIA

Unlike their North American rivals, who, in shifting, barrack-like camps, hew through a continent, the Austrian lumbermen lead a quiet, steady life with their womenfolk in picturesque huts by perpetual Alpine forests. Where they cut, they replant, and with a little cattle-raising and farming continue the work that has gone on, in the same place, for many scores of generations

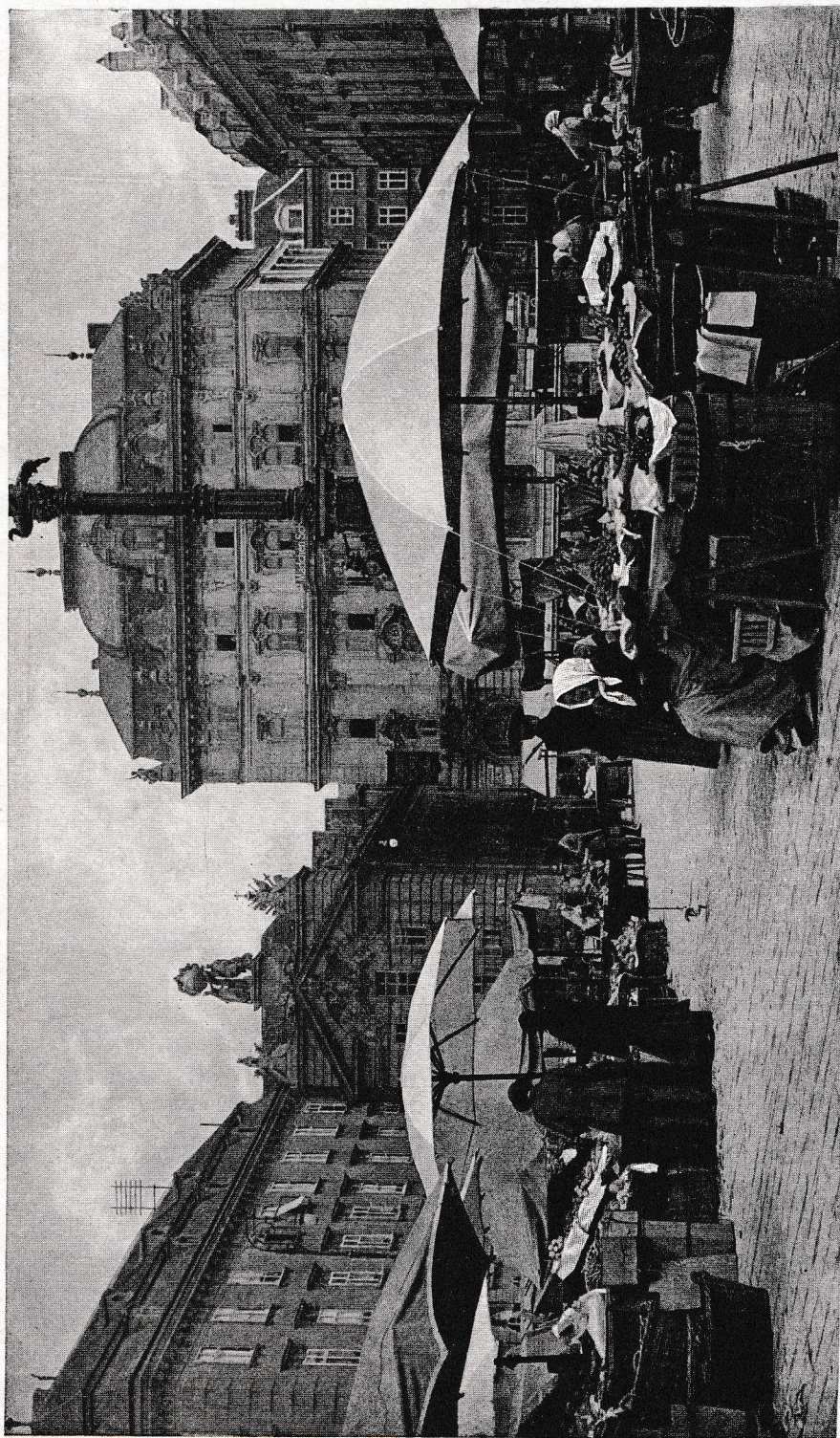
exquisite folk-music, its delicious lakes and sleepy old towns, its comfortable farmsteads with their meadows and orchards, its varied landscapes, its pleasant, kindly, melodious people, deserves to be better known.

Here is a nation, then, which conquers the good will of all, which has a nature in tune with the charm of the country it inhabits, which has added preciously to the world's possessions in music, which in the teaching of crafts is ahead of many other nations, which has a greater share than any other people of the spirit which we call artistic (as the delightful drawings and paintings by Viennese school-children, the pupils

of Professor Cisek, proved, when they were exhibited to incredulous and admiring London). Of its value to the world there can be no question. If by the cold decisions of politicians it were to be cruelly strangled, there would remain an inefaceable reproach against the twentieth century.

Such an event is inconceivable. Whether they keep their independence or unite with their kinsmen in Germany, there can be no doubt that the Austrian-Germans will hold their own among the peoples of the earth and, if the fearful penalty they have suffered be not lost upon them, they will be wiser than they were before in their easy-going days.





#### THE QUAIN OLD MARKET OF FRUIT-SELLERS IN THE AM HOF SQUARE OF VIENNA

With enormous umbrellas shading their stalls, in the fine historic square by the Imperial palace, the kerschified, shrewd Bohemian women in Vienna still hold to their traditional trade of greengrocery in the capital of the fallen Empire. They begin as apple-women at the street corners and work up gradually, as their jealously hoarded capital increases, to the solid prosperous-looking stalls in the Am Hof

*Photo. Donald McLeish*



# Austria

## II. The Rise and Fall of the Great Hapsburg Empire

By Geoffrey Drage, M.A.

Author of "Austria-Hungary"

THE key to the history of the Empire of Austria from the foundation of the Ostmark to the reforms of 1906 lies in this sentence: "Austria is not a state, but a government." We have, in fact, not to deal with the continuous development of one great race, with a national language, literature, and religion, but with the evolution, under one government, of many different populations living in territories gathered together in the course of many centuries by chance, by purchase, by marriage settlements, and by war, varying as widely in every essential particular as the environment in which their lot was cast.

Austrian history resolves itself into an account of the manner in which the heterogeneous lands and peoples represented in the Austrian Reichsrath, or Parliament, before the war were gathered, and, till 1918, held together. The chief connecting threads are the Danubian river system round which the Austrian territories centre, the junction of the trade routes in the imperial city of Vienna, and the common allegiance to the ruling house.

### The Beginnings of Austria

The name of Austria—literally Kingdom of the East—appears for the first time in history in 996, in a document signed by the Emperor Otto III., which contains the words: "In regione vulgari nomine Ostarrichi." By the end of the tenth century this frontier district, which served as a buffer between the Holy Roman Empire and Hungary, was virtually made a hereditary margraviate in the Babenberg family, since the Emperor felt it was expedient that one family should interest itself in this territory "ever in danger." Throughout the eleventh century the march was enlarged by further accessions in reward for service and by right of conquest.

To the House of Babenberg, like the House of Hapsburg, marriage brought fortune. In 1138, Konrad of Franconia, brother-in-law of Margrave Leopold IV., became Emperor, and conferred the duchy of the rebellious House of Bavaria upon the ruler of Austria. Henry II., Leopold's brother, became the first hereditary Duke of Austria, and in 1156 received from Frederick Barbarossa the famous charter known as "Privilegium Minus," which marked the first step in the process by which Austria, while out-

wardly belonging to the Empire, became inwardly an independent territorial state. Under Leopold V., who succeeded Henry II. in 1177, the territory was further increased by the addition of the Margraviate of Styria, and the name of Austria became known in Western Europe by the part he took in the third Crusade, and by his seizure and imprisonment in Vienna of Richard Cœur de Lion on his way back to England from Palestine.

### A Period of Misery and Confusion

His successors, Frederick I. and Leopold VI., surnamed the Glorious, also became Crusaders, and under the last-named the internal commerce and industry of the territory were developed, the towns of Enns, Krems, and Vienna receiving charters from him. Not only did wealth increase to a remarkable extent, but poetry and the arts were cultivated "with passion" at the Court of the House of Babenberg, and a German literature flourished. In 1246, however, Frederick the Quarrelsome, the last of the Babenbergs, was killed on the banks of the Leitha, fighting against Hungary, the hereditary foe of his house. He left his dominions in misery.

From 1246 to 1276 there was a confused period in which various claimants struggled for the possession of the Austrian lands. For some time Ottokar, King of Bohemia, appeared to be in the ascendant, but from 1273, the year in which Rudolph of Hapsburg was elected head of the Holy Roman Empire, it became clear that he had designs upon the Babenberg inheritance. In these he was eventually successful, thanks to his victory at Marchfeld (1278), when Ottokar was slain.

### Seven Centuries of Hapsburg Rule

The founder of the House of Hapsburg, which reigned till 1918, was born on May Day in 1218, in the old castle of the Counts of Upper Alsace, Habsburg or Habichtsburg on the Aar, between Olten and Zürich, with a modest title and a much more modest heritage. He was a soldier of fortune, who by much valour and enterprise, by the acquisition of land through the death of his uncle, by the fame of his military exploits, and a certain charm of manner, gradually raised himself until, in his fifty-sixth year, he reached the highest position in the Christian world.



## AUSTRIA. ITS RISE AND FALL

After the accession of the Hapsburg dynasty the first important event in Austrian history was the acquisition, partly by virtue of a marriage settlement, and partly by purchase, of Tirol. By this acquisition Austria came into contact with the old possessions of the Counts of Alsace in Germany and Switzerland, and also opened up communication with Italy. In 1379 the Austrian State was dismembered, Albert and Leopold, the brothers of Rudolph IV., dividing the hereditary states between them. In 1457, however, the Albertine branch came to an end, and the territories, which had been enlarged by new acquisitions, among them Trieste (1382), were again united.

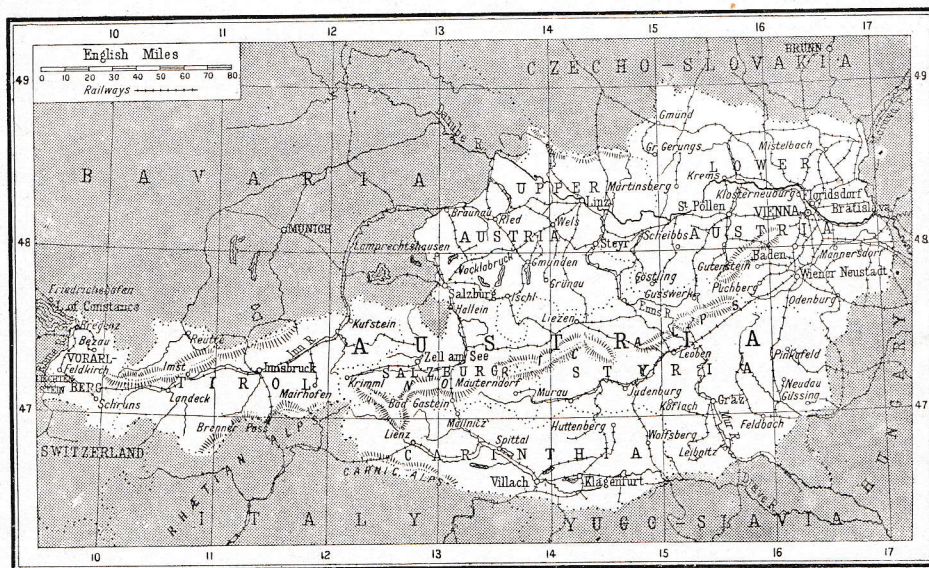
A few years earlier (1453) the Turks had taken Constantinople, an event which deeply affected the cultural advance of Europe, and was of vital importance to the political future of Austria. It was the pressure of the Turk which not only forced Austria, Bohemia, and Hungary to sink their common differences, in order to present a common front to the infidel, but kept this incongruous alliance together for centuries to come. The pressure began immediately. In 1472, 1473, and 1493, Frederick saw his estates ravaged by the Ottomans, who penetrated as far as Styria.

Frederick's successor, Maximilian I. (1493-1519), was the first of the Hapsburgs to play a great part in European politics, and from his accession the Holy Roman Empire, which had been Teutonised under Otho, became more and more an Austrian appanage. Maximilian united under his sceptre all the dominions of his house,

Austria proper, Styria, Carinthia, Carniola, and Tirol, while Trieste and Fiume gave him access to the sea. In 1499, by the peace of Basel, he lost Switzerland, but in 1500 he inherited Görz and Gradisca, Mitterburg and Pusterthal. His reign is chiefly distinguished by his struggle with France and the great part he played in Germany. But the interest he evoked and the fame he enjoyed as Emperor did not do more than shed a lustre on his hereditary dominions, though Austria was directly affected by the matrimonial alliance with the Royal Houses of Bohemia and Hungary, which laid the foundation of her position in modern times.

But while the prestige of the Hapsburgs grew in Europe, the prosperity of the country they owned diminished. Famine was rife in the hereditary lands, and famine, joined to the unjust exactions of the selfish nobility, gave rise to the peasant war in Carniola in 1509.

Seven years after the death of Maximilian, the Turks defeated the Hungarian army at Mohacs (1526), and in that battle Louis III., King of Hungary and Bohemia, was defeated and slain. A few months later Ferdinand I., the Spanish-bred grandson of Maximilian and brother of Charles V., became King of Hungary and Bohemia as well as Archduke of Austria. Hungary and Bohemia nominally remained distinct from the hereditary dominions. Nominally they had nothing in common save the person of the sovereign, but practically they were forced to become one state in the presence of their common



THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA AFTER THE TREATY OF ST. GERMAIN, 1919





### THE RISE AND FALL OF THE HAPSBURG AND AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN EMPIRES

The countries and kingdoms which made up the great Austro-Hungarian Empire are shown within the black line with the dates at which each territory was acquired. All, except the small portion shown as now constituting the Austrian Republic, were lost after the Great War. The dates marked in the older Hapsburg dominions are the years in which these lands were finally surrendered.

foe. Geographically, Bohemia forms an independent isolated unit, shut in by mountains on three sides, belonging rather to the Elbe system than to the Danube. While the Babenberg Duchy was painfully adding county to county, still an insignificant fief of the Empire, Bohemia, with well marked borders, was already a kingdom, having attained the royal title in 1204. In 1256 the Czech king, Ottokar II., refused the imperial crown.

In the fourteenth century, under Charles (the son of the blind king, John, of Luxemburg, killed at Crecy), who was elected Emperor in 1347, Bohemia became the centre round which the Empire gravitated, a mere annex to Czech prosperity. Prague became in 1348 the seat of a university, second only to that of Paris, and though not a Czech by birth, Charles well earned the title of Father of Bohemia and Stepfather of the Empire. The Bohemian king became one of the seven imperial electors, but Bohemia remained exempt from imperial interference, as the Bohemian estates alone had the right to elect their ruler.

The reign of Charles' incompetent son Vacslav (Wenceslaus) IV. coincided with the great schism resulting from the election of two popes at Rome on the death of Gregory IV. in 1377, and the reform movement of John Hus. The

serious internal position in Bohemia arising from the impotence of the king and the disorders in all ranks of the ecclesiastical body was further aggravated by the mutinous condition of the serfs.

A revolution was inevitable, and religion being the principal interest in the Middle Ages, it was in the world of religious ideas that the revolution took place. John Hus, the Wycliffe of Bohemia, was the hero of this movement, and expressed the protests of nationality, of morality, and of dogma against the German influence in Bohemia and the corruption of the Church.

In July, 1415, Hus, who had already been imprisoned, was tried and burned, after a final refusal to recant made at the stake. His martyrdom aroused a storm of indignation and a great revolt broke out. At first the Husite rebels were victorious. Their exploits filled all Europe with alarm and admiration, while their doctrines spread far beyond Bohemia.

In 1436 peace was at length concluded, but the Czechs re-entered the Church without surrendering their principles, and gained recognition of their nationality; for Sigismund, the last of the House of Luxemburg, promised to appoint none but native officials in Bohemia. The religious difficulty remained unsettled in succeeding reigns, and indeed received a fresh impetus from the doctrines of



## AUSTRIA, ITS RISE AND FALL

Luther, who began to preach in 1521. When then Bohemia came under the domination of Ferdinand I., it was a kingdom tenanted by a nation full of vitality with glorious and ancient traditions, tenacious of its nationality and religion, the champion of intellectual and religious freedom, a kingdom larger, more populous, and more illustrious than the archduchy with which it was henceforward to be associated.

### Vigour of the Magyar Spirit

For more than a century and a half after the battle of Mohacs, Hungary did not directly influence the internal condition of Austria, being perpetually in insurrection and periodically in alliance with the Turks. In the Magyar state a vigorous race had preserved the national and territorial integrity of the state for hundreds of years, and here the reformed religion had obtained many stubborn adherents; but the most serious difficulty which the Austrian Government had to face and to which, after centuries of struggle, it had to capitulate, was the devotion of the Magyars to their Constitution, and this Constitutionalism proved more baffling than Bohemian heresy.

To Bohemia and Hungary the accession of the Hapsburgs in 1526 was the fulfilment of a contract. Ferdinand was offered the double throne in return for protection against the Turks. The settlement was, in short, in the view of the Diets, a triple alliance which involved no sacrifice of rights or privileges.

Ferdinand, on his side, did not concern himself with Constitutional niceties. His accession meant to him a wide extension of the Hapsburg lands, and his policy was to centralize the Government. Under this monarch the salient characteristics which the Hapsburg rule retained up till the settlement in 1867 were all evinced. The Government was despotic, military, bureaucratic, centralizing, and Germanising without being German, for the Court was Spanish, Burgundian, and French.

### Pursuing the Shadow of Empire

Being endowed with remarkable political insight and unusual experience in politics and diplomacy, the Hapsburgs enlisted the two great forces—the one moral and the other social—the Church and the nobility, in support of their idea of the State. The Hapsburg policy was guided by the medieval conception of the universal Church and the universal Empire, the Church as the helpmeet of the State, an idea which gathered strength from the relations they were obliged to keep up with the many neighbours of their various possessions.

On the other hand, the Hapsburgs recognized that it was impossible to

Germanise the whole heterogeneous mass of peoples under their rule, but they strove to cement the Triune State by the creation of an Austrian élite which should rally round the throne. This was the most original conception of their race. The nobles from the different quarters of their dominions congregated at Vienna all the more because many families were driven into Austria by Turkish invasions, and there they inter-married and became practically denationalised.

Had Ferdinand and his successors contented themselves with attempting to form an Austrian State there can be little doubt they would have succeeded; for, backed by the Church and the nobility, they could well have moulded the Triune State into one united realm. But the archduke was overshadowed by the Emperor, and the Hapsburgs sacrificed the substance of the Austrian State to the shadow of the Empire, which they were not strong enough to restore.

They did not realize the incompatibility of the Empire and the Austrian State, and were unable to see that by clinging to the crown which had ceased to be either Holy, or Roman, or Imperial, except in name, and by identifying themselves with Germany, they ruined their chances of assimilating Hungary and Bohemia.

### The Empire's Vicissitudes in 400 Years

To them, as emperors of Austria, absorption might have been possible, but to them as emperors of Germany it was impossible because it appeared to be absorption by an alien Power, and that idea strengthened Hungarian and Bohemian resistance.

The essential feature of the history of the Austrian State from 1526 to 1914 is the varying success of the Austrian policy in Bohemia and Hungary—while Bohemia succumbed, Hungary succeeded in saving her Constitution and her national existence.

Territorial changes have constantly occurred in Austrian history since 1526. Apart from the Austrian Netherlands, which were united to the monarchy from 1712 to 1797, the following were the most important acquisitions made by the Triune State after the expulsion of the Turk from Hungary at the end of the seventeenth century: the county of Zips in Galicia in 1772, the Bukowina in 1777, and Western Galicia, gained by the third partition of Poland in 1795. Two years later, by the Treaty of Campo Formio, Istria, Dalmatia, and the Gulf of Cattaro fell to Austria. In the nineteenth century the Republic of Cracow was annexed (1846), while Bosnia and the Herzegovina were occupied in 1878 and annexed in 1908.



## AUSTRIA, ITS RISE AND FALL

Losses were sustained by the Empire in this period, the most important being those of Silesia in the wars with Frederick the Great in the eighteenth century, and in Italy in the nineteenth century. The loss of Lombardy in 1859 and of Venetia in 1866 closed the southern gate of the Empire, while the defeat in the Austro-Prussian War at the latter date closed the western door, throwing Austria back on herself, and making her even more definitely the Empire of the East. At the outbreak of the Great War Francis Joseph's monarchy included the Empire of Austria, the Kingdoms of Bohemia, Galicia and Lodomeria and Dalmatia, as well as the Apostolic Kingdom of Hungary.

In 1867, when it became manifest that the effort to realize one German ideal as a whole had failed, a change came about and, with the ingenious and novel link of the Delegations, an attempt was made to realize two separate ideals, the German and the Magyar. This attempt was finally shattered in the Great War of 1914-1918.

Nevertheless, the lands which composed the Austro-Hungarian Empire supplement each other's needs and have long been accustomed to each other's ways. In business, the knowledge of the requirements of a market and the habit of supplying them constitute a far greater factor than is generally recognized. Vienna

is in fact the natural market of Austria-Hungary. Economically the whole territory is united by Nature, and the work of Nature has been supplemented by the network of railways which are in these days more important than waterways.

Further, the military routes coincide with the trade routes, so that the two first conditions of a great Power, military and economic unity, are satisfied.

Few countries can rival Austria in the glorious memories and the bitter prejudices she has aroused; few countries have the same record of dauntless gallantry and dogged ill-fortune; few are the home of so many lost causes and forgotten beliefs. There is the splendid gallery of rulers and national heroes, and there is the pity of the long and losing fight made with all the tenacity of men of ancient lineage and unbroken pride for the Church of Rome and for the policy of the Holy Alliance against religious and political freedom.

Since 1918 proposals have been made for a Danubian Confederation to consist of (1) the northern states (the Czechoslovak); (2) the southern states (the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes), the Germans, and the Magyars. So far these proposals have proved fruitless. But Europe has not yet finished with the problems we have touched on. The riddle of the Eastern Empire or Oesterreich is not yet solved.

## AUSTRIA: FACTS AND FIGURES

### The Country

The Treaty of St. Germain, signed in September, 1919, gave to the Federal Republic of Austria the following territories (or "Lands") of the old Austro-Hungarian Empire: Upper Austria provinces, Lower Austria and Vienna, Salzburg, North Tirol, Styria, Carinthia, Vorarlberg, and German Western Hungary.

Census of January, 1920, showed approximate area to be 30,716 square miles and population to be 6,139,197. These figures do not include German Western Hungary, about 1,684 square miles with estimated population of 345,000, making totals for the Austrian Republic 32,400 square miles and population 6,484,197.

### Government and Constitution

The Austrian Republic (Die Republik Oesterreich) was proclaimed November 12th, 1918. Under Constitution of November, 1920, it became a Federal Republic governed through two Federal chambers, Bundesrat and Nationalrat. President of the Bundesrat (Federal Diet) is President of the Federal Republic. The old Provincial Diets are retained as legislative bodies for the Lands.

### Army and Navy

The Treaty of St. Germain required the Army, Navy, and Air Force to be demobilised and reduced to minima and all warships to be surrendered. The Republican Army is organized on the basis of voluntary enlistment for twelve years. There is now no Austrian seaboard, and therefore no Republican Navy beyond a few small vessels on the Danube.

### Commerce and Industries

Values of Austrian commerce not available since the war. Exports (1920) about 780,000 tons; imports about 2,680,000 tons.

Principal industry is agriculture, but foods produced are not sufficient for needs of the population. Forestry is an important asset. Lignite, brown coal (2,000,000 tons per annum), anthracite (133,000 tons) and iron ore (2,000,000 tons) are principal minerals remaining to Austria. Moderate quantities of lead, copper, zinc, gold, and silver ore are also worked.

Piano-making and manufacture of motor-cars, textiles, and glass are still Austrian industries, though greatly diminished.

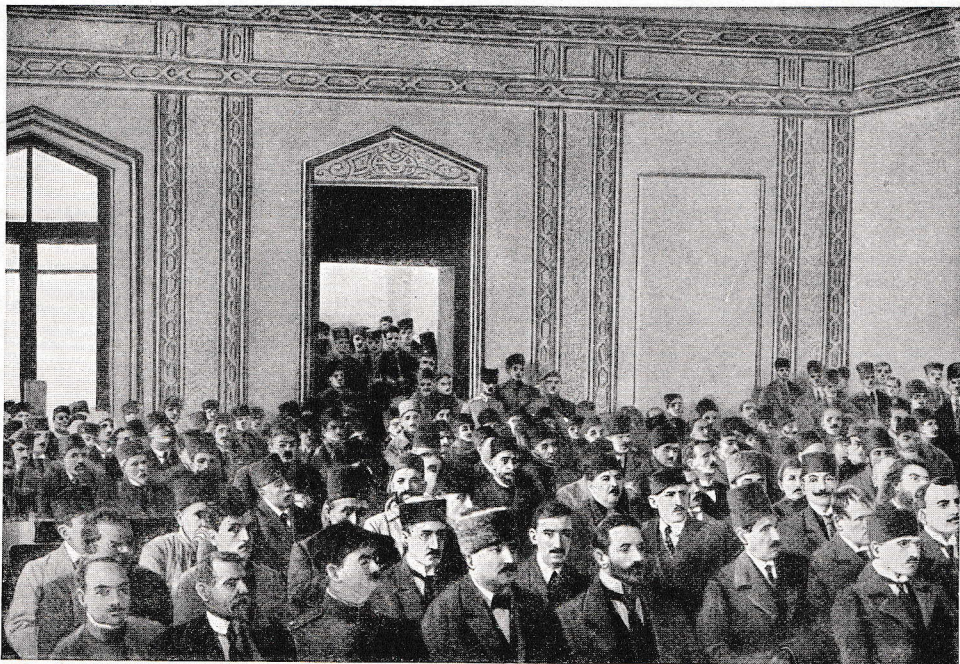
### Chief Towns

Vienna, the capital, now separated from the Lands and a political entity by itself, had population of 1,842,000 in 1920, representing reduction of about 300,000 on the 1914 figures. Graz (157,000), Linz (93,000), Innsbruck (56,000), Salzburg (36,000), and Wiener Neustadt (35,000) are other principal towns.

### Money

Standard gold coin was the krone or crown (24.22 to the £ in 1914) minted in 100, 20, and 10 crown pieces. The krone—100 heller. Few or no coins in circulation, paper money being almost exclusively in use with krone of very low and greatly varying sterling value.





#### THE CULTIVATED TARTARS BEGINNING THEIR WORK FOR FREEDOM

Most of these Tartar parliamentarians of Azerbaijan have learnt to cut their hair, shave, and dress in European fashion in the last generation. Some are millionaires, owing to their luck in possessing land with oil under it. A life of keen business has made them the most intelligent of Moslems



#### FIRST MEETING OF THE PARLIAMENT OF A MOSLEM REPUBLIC

On the left are the ministers of Azerbaijan ; on the right, a fezged Turk is Speaker. The scene is of peculiar interest, in that Moslems despise popular government in time of danger and rely on a military dictator. In this case, however, European financiers, interested in Baku oil, handled the matter in order to win for the Republic aid at the Peace Conference

*Photos. Azerbaijan Agency*